

Rules of Play

Play is governed by the USGA Rules of Golf and where applicable, by the following Local Rules, Conditions and Definitions. Unless otherwise provided, penalty for breach of a Local Rule in Stroke Play is two (2) strokes; Match Play, loss of hole.

1. Golf Balls: Only brands of golf balls tested by the USGA and found to conform to the Rules of Golf may be used. Penalty for breach is disqualification. Appendix 1.

2. Embedded Ball Through the Green – Reference Appendix 1.

3. Stones in Bunkers: Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions (Rule 24-1 applies).

4. Out-of-bounds: (Rule 27) Defined by the inside point of white stakes or fence posts at ground level. Objects defining Out Of Bounds are not Obstructions. The Committee may use white lines marked “OB” in order to define the Out Of Bounds margin, and the lines are Out of Bounds.

5. Ground Under Repair: Examples are: Areas encircled by white lines, fire ant beds and mounds including those in water hazards, french drains (trenches filled with stones or the like). Definitions, Rule 25-1.

6. Staked Trees: If the lie of the ball, stance and/or area of intended swing is affected by a staked tree, treat the stake and/or attached wires/ropes as immovable obstructions. Rule 24-2b(I).

7. Roads, Paths - White Lines: Asphalt and artificially surfaced roads and paths are Obstructions. White Lined areas tying into roads and paths have the same status as roads or paths, and thus they are Obstructions and not Ground Under Repair. Rule 24-2.

8. Water Hazards and Lateral Water Hazards - Rule 26. Water Hazards are defined by yellow lines and/or stakes. Lateral Water Hazards are defined by red lines and/or stakes.

9. Distance Measuring Devices: Unless otherwise prohibited, a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. However, if during a stipulated round a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional functions are actually used.

10. Tree Wrapping, Electrical Wires and Cables Closely Attached to Trees: When closely attached to trees these objects are not obstructions, they are integral parts of the course.

11. Permanent Elevated Power Lines and Cables: If a ball strikes such a line or cable, the stroke shall be canceled and MUST be replayed without penalty in accordance with Rule 20-5. For temporary power lines and/or cables, see Appendix 1.

12. Automotive Transportation: A motorized cart is part of a player’s equipment. When one cart is employed by two players and the cart is being driven by one of the players employing it, the cart and its contents are considered the equipment of that player. Definitions, Equipment

13. Conduct: The Committee has the right to address conduct violations and levy penalties according to the Tournament Rules and Regulations.

14. Alcoholic Beverages: Consumption by professionals during tournament play is prohibited; penalty is disqualification.

15. Doubt as to Procedure: (REVISED, Please read Rule 3-3 for Stroke Play; 2-5 for Match Play)

16. Score Cards: Must be signed, attested and returned to the scorer’s table immediately following the completion of the round. The player is allowed to correct the scorecard even after the card has been signed and attested provided he has not deposited the score card in the official box or has not left the scoring area as defined by the Committee.

17. Playoffs: Ties requiring a play-off shall commence on the first hole immediately following completion of regular play. The committee may make changes if necessary. Appendix 1.

18. Committee’s Decision to Suspend Play: When play is suspended for a non-dangerous situation, (e.g. darkness), the players in a match or group may proceed under the provisions of Rule 6-8. If play is suspended for a dangerous situation, (e.g. lightning), and the players are between the play of two holes, they shall not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they shall discontinue play immediately and shall not thereafter resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. **Note:** A suspension for a dangerous situation shall be signaled by one prolonged air horn blast. All other types of suspensions, or resumption of play shall be signaled by three short intermittent air horn blasts. If facility has automated lightning detection system it is to be disregarded. Committee will determine suspension and resumption. Penalty For Breach Of This Local Rule - Disqualification
All practice areas shall be closed during suspension for dangerous reason and remain closed until the Committee has declared them open for use.

19. Turf Plugs any size on putting green: In addition to Rule 16-1c, the player may repair turf plugs of any size, but not aeration holes, only on the putting green of the hole being played.

20. Pace of Play: (Rule 6-7 Undue Delay) A player shall be subject to penalty if he unduly delays play.

21. “Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows:

When a player’s ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1. This Local Rule applies only when the player’s ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

Note: If it is determined that a player’s ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.”

SLOW PLAY MONITORING PROCEDURES

A standard rate of time has been set to play all North Florida PGA Tournaments. The rate of time will be listed as part of the NFPGA Section permanent Rules Sheet. Should Section staff determine a different rate of time is needed due to unusual playing conditions, that new time will be posted on the Local Rules Sheet. Any group will be considered out of position if it (a) is taking more than the allotted time to play (Pace of Play Time Chart) and (b) reaches the tee on a par 4 or par 5 that is clear of all players. A group out of position will NOT be notified that they are out of position and will be subject to individual and group timing.

SLOW PLAY TIMING PROCEDURES

A player will be allowed a maximum of **40 seconds** to complete his stroke. **NOTE:** An additional 10 seconds will be allowed for a) the first to play from the teeing ground; b) the first to play a second stroke on a par 4 or par 5 hole; c) the first to play a third stroke on a par 5 hole; or d) the first to play on or around the putting green. *Below applies to Individual and Grouping at committee discretion.*

First Offense	Warning
Second Offense	One (1) Stroke Penalty
Third Offense	Two (2) Stroke Penalty and may be subject to a fine up to \$100.00 and/or suspensions.
Fourth Offense	Disqualification

Note: Timing will discontinue when the group has regained its position. Time previously recorded that may have exceeded the limit, however, will be held over for further occurrence.